

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /120 W

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P 101644Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9348

SECDEF/OASD/ISA PRIORITY

INFO USCINCSO

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E O 11652: NA

TAGS: MARR, CO

SUBJ: NEW MIL MISSION AGREEMENT WITH COLOMBIA

REF A. DEF 62146Z SEP 73 B. STATE 178370 C. BOGOTA 7017

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

HEREWITH COUNTRY TEAM VIEWS ON REF A:

1. WE ARE PLEASED THAT WASHINGTON'S VIEWS COINCIDE WITH OURS ON THE NEED FOR A NEW AGREEMENT AND ON THE MODIFICATIONS TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE COLOMBIAN GOVT. THE MESSAGES FROM STATE AND DEF CONCERN US, HOWEVER, BECAUSE THERE STILL SEEMS TO EXIST THE THOUGHT THAT WE CAN WAIT SEVERAL MORE MONTHS TO REPLY TO THE COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL WHILE WE MAKE UP OUR MINDS ON A MODEL AGREEMENT.

2. WE CANNOT IN GOOD CONSCIENCE SAY THAT PRESSURE EXISTS FROM THE COLOMBIAN GOVT TO CONSUMMATE THE NEW AGREEMENT, BUT WE DO BELIEVE THAT THE LONGER WE WAIT THE MORE CHANCE THERE WILL BE THAT THE COLOMBIAN MIL, ESPECIALLY, WILL TAKE OFFENCE AT OUR SILENCE. THE DRAFT PRESENTED BY THE COLOMBIANS WILL GIVE US,
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WITH A MINOR CHANGE, EVERY PROTECTION AND PREROGATIVE WE COULD

WANT.

3. IF WE INTRODUCE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE COLOMBIAN AGREEMENT SHOULD SERVE AS A MODEL, WE WILL NOT BE RESPONSIVE TO THE COLOMBIANS-

THEY HAVE PROPOSED ONE TO US THAT SUITS THEIR NEEDS AND OURS. IT MAY WELL BE THAT IT WOULD ALSO BE SUITABLE THROUGHOUT THE CONTINENT BUT WE DOUBT IT COULD BE MADE TO FIT ALL COUNTRIES WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATION. THE FACT THAT THE COLOMBIANS HAVE IN GOOD FAITH MADE A PROPOSAL MAKES IT INCUMBENT ON US TO RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY IF THE AGREEMENT SERVES OUR NEEDS, WHICH IT DOES SEEM TO DO.

4. WE RECOMMEND AGAINST TRYING TO SHAPE THE COLOMBIAN DRAFT INTO A MODEL AGREEMENT FOR THE REST OF THE HEMISPHERE UNLESS WE TELL THE COLOMBIAN GOVT NOW OF OUR INTENTION AND ASK FOR THEIR CONCURRENCE. A VISIT BY THE SURVEY TEAM TO COLOMBIA IS NOT A PREREQUISITE TO ANALYSIS OF THE COLOMBIAN DRAFT. IN ANY EVENT, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE TEAM SHOULD COME UNLESS IT CAN ARRIVE NOT LATER THAN THE OCT 6 DATE MENTIONED IN THE REFS. WHITE

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